

# Pioneer Park Tree Walk



1

## Coast Live Oak *Quercus agrifolia*

Evergreen tree that once covered huge areas of Coastal California. Can reach 70 feet tall. Round-headed and wide-spreading tree. Drops almost all its old leaves in early spring. Native American’s considered it sacred because it provided them with their most important source of food (up to 500 lbs. of acorns in a good year).



2

## Flowering Cherry *Prunus subhirtella*

Deciduous tree native to Japan. Can reach 25 to 30 feet tall. Needs full sun and fast-draining soil. Somewhat drought-tolerant. The profuse pink flowers appear in the spring. Introduced from Japan in 1894. In Japan, a 1000-year-old flowering cherry has a circumference of 32 ft.



3

## Eastern Redbud *Cercis Canadensis*

Deciduous tree native to Eastern U.S. Can reach 35 feet tall. Rosy flowers cover bare branches in early spring. Found in rich woods, ravines, and along streams. They are an understory tree and grow below the canopy of other trees. Fast-growing but short -lived. Dislikes wet clay soils.

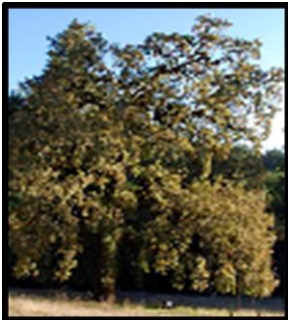
# Pioneer Park Tree Walk



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## Scarlet Oak *Quercus coccinea*

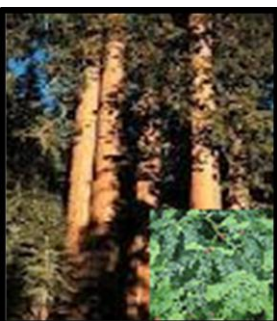
Deciduous tree native to eastern North American deciduous forests. Commonly found in dry, sandy sites. Can reach 60 to 80 feet tall. Glossy dark green leaves turn bright scarlet where autumns are cool. Needs full sun and good drainage to do well. Valued by Native Americans for its medicinal applications.



5

## California Valley Oak *Quercus lobata*

Deciduous native tree. Can reach over 100 feet tall. California’s mightiest oak, with a life span of 200 to 500 years! The only oak that lives near bodies of water; many were cut down because they grew where there was deep soil and plenty of water that was prime agricultural land.

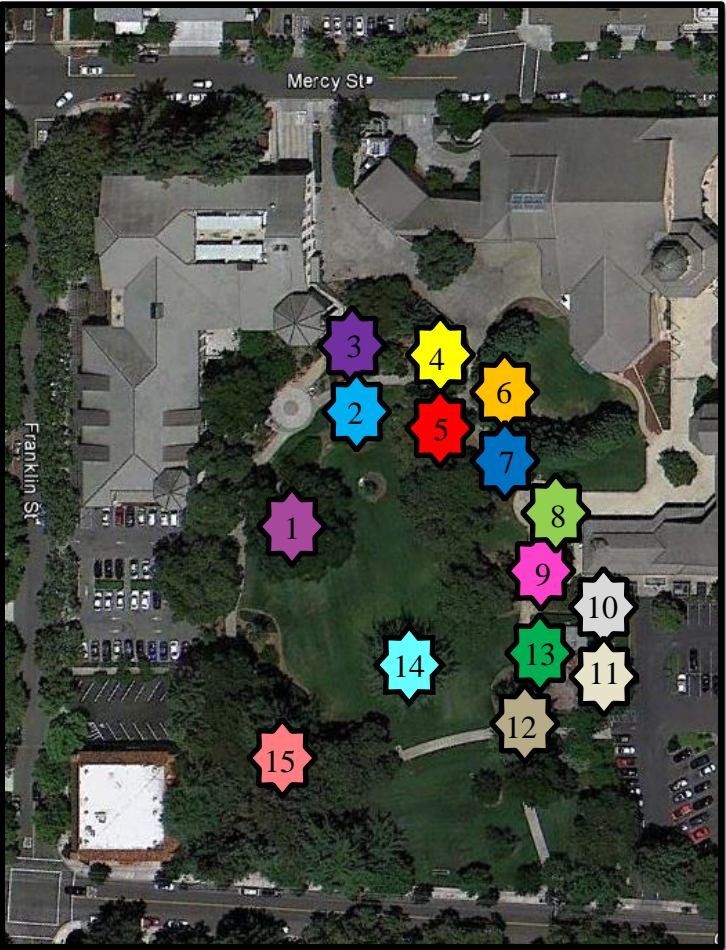


6

## Coast Redwood *Sequoia sempervirens*

Fast-growing evergreen tree that is native to the foggy coastal belt of Northern California. Can reach 300 feet tall. The oldest is some 1400 years old. The tree is thought to be named for a native American leader, Sequoya, inventor of the Cherokee alphabet. *Sempervirens* means “lives forever.”

# City of Mountain View Pioneer Park Tree Walk





# Pioneer Park Tree Walk



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**American Sweet Gum**  
*Liquidambar styraciflua*  
Deciduous tree native to the Eastern U.S.. It grows abundantly in the lower Mississippi Valley. Commercially grown for hardwood in its native range. In the West it grows to 60 feet. Leaves are dark green in spring and summer, turning red, yellow, or purple in fall. Easily identifiable spiked “gumballs”.



8

**Crape Myrtle**  
*Lagerstroemia indica*  
Drought-tolerant, deciduous shrub or tree native of China. Flowers have crinkled and ruffled petals. Grew in the Chinese emperor’s palace gardens during the T'ang Dynasty (A.D. 618 to 906). Introduced to the Western world in the 17th century by ships of the Dutch East Indies Company.



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**Flowering Dogwood**  
*Cornus florida*  
Deciduous tree native to the Eastern U.S.. Can reach 20 feet tall. Needs ample water and protection from western sun. Provides flowers in spring and red fruit for the birds in winter. The wood was used to make tools & golf clubs. Native Americans used it for medicine and to make scarlet dye.

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**Dawn Redwood**  
*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*  
Dawn redwood is a rare deciduous conifer with bright green opposite needles that fade to coppery-golden in the autumn. It was believed to be extinct for centuries. The first specimens were brought from China in 1941. They can grow 90 feet tall. Good lawn tree.



11

**California Black Walnut**  
*Juglans californica*  
The California Black Walnut is a large shrub or small tree up to 75 feet tall. It grows as part of mixed woodlands and in valleys wherever conditions are favorable. It has thick bark that is deeply channeled or furrowed at maturity. It has a small hard nut in a shallowly grooved, thick shell that is difficult to remove.



12

**Monterey Pine**  
*Pinus radiata*  
They are a fast growing, shallow-rooted evergreen tree that grows to 100 feet tall. They occur naturally only in the fog belt along the central coast of California. The remaining stands are under threat of extinction from a fungal disease.

# Pioneer Park Tree Walk



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**Saucer Magnolia**  
*Magnolia soulangiana*  
Deciduous tree often called Tulip tree. They can reach 25 feet tall. The large pink or white flowers open like saucers to show the petals, blooming before the leaves unfurl. The trees are generally not bothered by pests and diseases. Good tree for lawn areas.



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**Deodar or Indian Cedar**  
*Cedrus deodora*  
Evergreen tree native to the Himalayas. Fast growing to 80 ft. with a 40-ft. spread at ground level. Considered the abode of the gods in Indian mythology. Cedars bear needles in tufted clusters. Male catkins produce large amounts of pollen that cover areas with yellow dust.



15

**Japanese Maple**  
*Acer palmatum*  
Deciduous tree that is native to China and Japan. Hardy and durable, can grow to 25 ft. and grows best in dappled light. Leaves turn red in autumn. Its botanical name (*palmatum*) refers to its leaves, which have five or more deep lobes and vaguely resemble a human hand (palm).